

as a whole. I also appreciate the sacrifices that he and his family have gone through during his time in the military. We are very lucky to have folks like Major General Fontaine serving our country and I wish him and his family the best as they move on into this new adventure. On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your dedication and your service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a resolution to establish a House of Representatives Summer Internship Program, which would allow youth, from college-bound to senior-level college students, to work in the House of Representatives for seven weeks in the summer. The students, from every state, territory, and the District of Columbia, would assist Members of Congress and congressional and Cloakroom staff with legislative duties, filling a void left after House leadership terminated the House of Representatives Page Program.

The participants would still need to meet most of the qualifications under the former House Page Program, except students would need to be at least 18 years of age, be entering or enrolled in college, and have earned a 3.0 or better grade point average over the prior two academic years. The House Speaker and Minority Leader would select and appoint the interns, and the Office of the Clerk of the House would administer the program. My bill would also establish an oversight board, and require the Clerk to propose regulations to implement the program.

In announcing the termination of the House Page Program, the House Speaker and Minority Leader cited the program's high operating costs and advances in technology that eliminated the need for Pages. My bill does not contain the major financial obligations of the Page Program, such as the costs of providing housing, residential staff, teachers and tutors, and a stipend for students. Under my bill, the House interns would be required to arrange and pay for their own housing and would serve without being paid. The interns would attend a one-hour class per week on the executive, judicial, or legislative process, which are already offered to all interns and congressional staff throughout the year by the Legislative Resource Center.

Since the termination of the Page Program, congressional staff, fellows, interns and legislative branch employees have come to understand the unique and proactive value of the program. For example, congressional staff now have to make frequent deliveries to the U.S. Capitol, cutting into their daily work duties. But, perhaps the most valuable and lasting aspect of the Page Program was the invaluable experience it provided to young people.

I urge my colleagues to support my bill, and I call for its immediate passage to continue youth participation in the legislative process.

HONORING W. DOUGLAS CALL

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 21, 2011

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas: W. Douglas Call is a resident of Genesee County and has been married for 48 years to Donna Hunt; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call and Donna are the proud parents of three children and 10 grandchildren; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call served as a United States Air Force Judge Advocate from 1966 to 1973, a former seminarian, and an attorney; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call was the Genesee County Assistant County Attorney from 1976 to 1980, Genesee County Sheriff from 1981 to 1988, Monroe County Director of Public Safety from 1988 to 1990 and Stafford Town Justice from 1999 to the present; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call was instrumental in developing a unique program along with more than 120 community groups which required community service for non-violent offenders; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call continued in his efforts to protect residents of Genesee County and New York State by initiating the Stop DWI and roadblock program; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call has dedicated his life to serving the residents of Genesee County. Be it further

Resolved; That we pause in our deliberations to honor W. Douglas Call for his outstanding commitment and service to the residents of Genesee County.

UNITED STATES-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert into the RECORD the following additional letters of opposition to the Free Trade Agreements with Korea, Panama, and Colombia: A letter from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; and a letter from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, July 11, 2011.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: On behalf of the over half a million members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, I am writing to urge you to vote against the proposed Free Trade Agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama. Approval of these three proposals is a vote to undercut American living standards

The evidence is clear. Over the last twenty years our government has agreed to similar trade deals with Mexico, Central America, China and other nations. Each time their promoters promised the Congress that the agreements would make America more competitive and create more jobs. Each time, the result was a widening trade deficit financed by borrowing from foreigners and a net loss

of U.S. jobs. Our massive indebtedness to China, for example, is a direct result of the trade deficit that followed the 2000 China trade agreement.

We now know that these deals were not designed to help U.S. workers or businesses that produce here. Rather they were designed to allow multinational corporations to off-shore production in countries where costs are cheap because workers are suppressed, the environment is abused and finance is unregulated.

As in prior trade deals, the new agreements lack enforceable labor and environmental protections. They allow foreign companies to challenge U.S. laws on the grounds that they inhibit foreign competition. And despite the claims of "free trade," they give away access to the U.S. markets without reciprocal rights for U.S. producers.

Thus, to give one example, under the agreement with Panama, any company registered in that country—including the thousands of Chinese and other foreign companies registered there—will have the right to bid on virtually any significant U.S. government procurement or construction project. But American firms are denied access to bid on the only large scale project of any size in Panama—the widening of the Panama Canal.

In effect, we would give away American jobs in order that U.S. multinationals have even greater opportunity to use Panama's notorious lax and corrupt financial system to escape U.S. taxes and rules against money laundering.

The negative impact of the deal with South Korea will be larger. The Economic Policy Institute—which has accurately forecast the economic impact of prior trade deals—estimates that the Korean FTA will directly cost Americans at least 160,000 jobs to start. The long term damage will be even greater. The agreement allows South Korea to export goods duty-free to the U.S. even if only 35% of the content is actually produced there. This will open the door for the transshipment of goods primarily manufactured in places like China, Vietnam and the totalitarian regime in North Korea.

Moreover, the Korea agreement has no effective provision for dismantling the labyrinth of non-tariff barriers that already results in the U.S. selling only 6,000 autos there a year, while Korea sells us 500,000. Neither does it prohibit Korea from manipulating its currency to gain competitive advantage in the same way that China now does.

The proposed deal with Colombia is morally offensive as well as economically unsound. Colombia has by far the most brutal record of repression of independent trade unionists in the world. On nothing but the flimsy promise that they will do better in the future, our government will be rewarding a corrupt oligarchy that suppresses workers' efforts to improve wages and working conditions with beatings, torture and assassinations. Despite claims that the political system there has "reformed," a record 52 Colombia trade unionists were murdered last year. Of the 2,800 assassinations of union leaders over two and a half decades, only five percent of the cases have been prosecuted.

The primary purpose of the treaty with Colombia is the same as that of the 2007 treaty with Peru—outsourcing American jobs. As the Peruvian president told the U.S. Chamber of Commerce the night the Peru FTA was signed, "Come and open your factories in my country so we can sell your own products back to the U.S."

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters supports balanced reciprocal trade agreements that provide the benefits of economic growth to workers in both the U.S. and its trading partners. Under any circumstances, these